



JOHN M. HOUSTON
COMMISSIONER

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MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation announces the retirement of Pat Martin from her position as Associate Commissioner for Intellectual Disabilities Services effective January 1, 2009. Commissioner John Houston said, “Because of her dedication and passion for the people we serve and her friendship, I received her resignation notice with sadness. However, I know that all her friends and colleagues will join me in thanking her for all that she has accomplished in her tenure as Associate Commissioner and wishing her well as she begins this new chapter in her life.”

The Commissioner has appointed Cathy Crabtree as the new Associate Commissioner for Intellectual Disabilities Services, effective January 12, 2009. Ms. Crabtree has an outstanding background and will bring her own expertise and passion to the position. She has more than 30 years experience working with children, adolescents, and adults in the areas of child welfare, juvenile justice, human services, substance abuse, mental health, and intellectual disabilities. While Assistant Commissioner in Tennessee for 8 years, she was responsible for the children with intellectual disabilities along with all the other children the state was involved with (a total of about 12,000 at that time).

Ms. Crabtree's management background is impressive, as she has extensive experience in planning, developing, implementing, and monitoring services and resources. Examples of this experience are evident in her roles assisting in the development of the Executive Management Leadership Curriculum at Yale University School of Management and as Senior Consultant with the Auburn Montgomery Center for Government directing the University's Health and Human Services initiatives. Most recently she has been the point person for the Camellia Project, a Governor's Office initiative to create interoperable information systems for the state's health and human services agencies.

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